BEFORE THE CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD STATE OF NEVADA

STATE OF NEVADA, CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD,

Case No. 2020-14

Petitioner.

WILLIAM ALBERTO GIRON,

Respondent.

COMPLAINT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Cannabis Compliance Board of the State of Nevada (the "CCB"), by and through counsel, Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, L. Kristopher Rath, Esq., Senior Deputy Attorney General, and Ashley A. Balducci, Esq., Senior Deputy Attorney General, having a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent William Alberto Giron ("Giron" or "Respondent") has violated provisions of Chapters 453A and 453D of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and Chapters 453A and 453D of the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC"), hereby issues its Complaint, stating the CCB's charges and allegations as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. Giron currently holds the following cannabis establishment agent registration card: (dispensary) 1900024487. The aforementioned cannabis establishment agent registration card in this Paragraph shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Current Agent Card." The Current Agent Card expires on January 15, 2021.
- 2. Giron previously held the following cannabis establishment agent registration cards:

Number	Establishment Category	Role	Application Date	Expiration Date
1900002169	Production	Employee	1/31/2019	1/30/2020
1900002171	Distribution	Employee	1/31/2019	1/30/2020

20	1900009547	Cultivation	Employee	3/15/2019	3/14/2020
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The aforementioned cannabis establishment agent registration cards in this Paragraph shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Prior Agent Cards."

- 3. In the application for the Prior Agent Cards, Giron signed the "Applicant Dispense/Divert Pledge Form" and pledged "not to dispense or otherwise divert marijuana to any person who is not authorized to possess marijuana in accordance with provisions of Nevada Revised Statute 453A and/or NRS 453D."
 - 4. Laws 2019, c. 595, § 240, eff. July 1, 2020, states, in pertinent part, as follows:
 - 1. The administrative regulations adopted by the Department of Taxation pursuant to chapters 453A and 453D of NRS governing the licensing and regulation of marijuana establishments and medical marijuana establishments remain in force and are hereby transferred to become the administrative regulations of the Cannabis Compliance Board on July 1, 2020. On and after July 1, 2020, these regulations must be interpreted in a manner so that all references to the Department of Taxation and its constituent parts are read and interpreted as being references to the Cannabis Compliance Board and its constituent parts, regardless of whether those references have been conformed pursuant to section 244 of this act at the time of interpretation...
 - 3. Any action taken by the Department of Taxation or its constituent parts pursuant to chapter 453A and 453D of NRS governing the licensing and regulation of marijuana establishments and medical marijuana establishments before July 1, 2020, remains in effect as if taken by the Cannabis Compliance Board or its constituent parts on and after July 1, 2020.
- 5. Effective July 1, 2020, and pursuant to NRS 678A.350, the CCB superseded the Marijuana Enforcement Division of the Department of Taxation (the "Department") in enforcing Nevada's laws and regulations for the cannabis industry.
- 6. As set forth below, the events at issue in this Complaint occurred prior to July 1, 2020, when Giron held the Prior Agent Cards¹ pursuant to NRS Chapters 453A and 453D and NAC Chapters 453A and 453D. Therefore, Giron is subject to the jurisdiction of the CCB and subject to discipline pursuant to NRS 678A through 678D and the relevant

¹ Prior to July 1, 2020, cannabis establishment agent registration cards were known as marijuana establishment agent registration cards.

provisions of NRS Chapters 453A and 453D and NAC 453A and 453D. Violations are referenced herein to the statutes and regulations in effect at the time each said violation occurred.

7. Pursuant to NRS 678A.500 and 678A.510(1), the CCB's Executive Director has transmitted the details of the suspected violations of Giron to the Attorney General and the Attorney General has conducted an investigation of the suspected violations. The Attorney General has recommended to the Executive Director that further proceedings are warranted, as set forth in this Complaint. Pursuant to NRS 678A.510(2)(b), the CCB has authorized service of this Complaint pursuant to NRS 678A.510(1) to proceed with the appropriate disciplinary action under NRS 678A.520 through 678A.600.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. CCB incorporates all prior Paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 9. On March 8, 2019, the Department's Inspectors Kimberly Wayman ("Inspector Wayman") and Elizabeth Perez ("Inspector Perez") conducted an inspection at a cannabis establishment located at 1324 South 3rd Street, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 ("dispensary") after the Department received an anonymous complaint alleging the unauthorized breakdown of cannabis flower in an employee breakroom at a dispensary.²
- 10. During this inspection, Wayman and Perez reviewed and obtained sign-in sheets for visitors. According to the visitor sign-in sheets, from 4:55 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., on February 21, 2019, Giron visited the dispensary for "inventory." The visitor sign-in sheets showed that Giron returned on February 22, 2019, from 2:18 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. for "inventory." Inspectors Wayman and Perez requested video surveillance of the dispensary's employee breakroom for February 21, 2019 and February 22, 2019.
- 11. On February 21, 2019 and February 22, 2019, Giron's Prior Agent Cards only authorized him to work or volunteer as a distributor or in a production facility and not a

² NAC 453D.446(1)(d) provides that "[i]f preparation or packaging of concentrated marijuana and marijuana products is done in the building, a designated area for the preparation or packaging that: (1) Includes work space that can be sanitized; and (2) Is only used for the preparation or packaging of concentrated marijuana or marijuana products."

dispensary.

12. The Department's Compliance Audit Investigator II Shandon Snow ("Investigator Snow") reviewed the video surveillance and observed Giron along with Alex Rodriguez, Brian Porras, and Alicia Castile separate cannabis flower in an employee break room at the dispensary on February 21, 2019. The video surveillance also showed Giron put a bag of the cannabis flower in his pocket.

VIOLATIONS OF LAW

- 13. CCB incorporates all prior Paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 14. As to the Prior Agent Cards and Current Agent Card, Respondent violated NAC 453D.348(2) and NAC 453D.905(3)(e)(1) for failing to have in the immediate possession a marijuana establishment agent registration card or proof of temporary registration to work or volunteer in a dispensary on February 21, 2019. Because Giron only had marijuana establishment registration cards to work or volunteer as a distributor or at a production facility, this is a Category IV violation under NAC 453D.905(3)(e)(1). The first Category IV violation carries a fine of not more than \$1,250.
- 15. As to the Prior Agent Cards and Current Agent Card, Respondent knowingly violated NAC 453D.365(3)(a) by diverting marijuana product when video surveillance showed Giron put a bag of the cannabis flower he separated in his pocket on February 21, 2019. The Department may revoke a marijuana establishment agent card pursuant to NAC 453D.365(3)(a) and NAC 453D.354(4). Alternatively, should the CCB find that Respondent unknowingly diverted marijuana product, then Respondent violated NAC 453D.905(3)(d)(19). This is a Category III violation. The first Category III violation carries a fine of not more than \$2,500.

DISCIPLINE AUTHORIZED

- 16. Pursuant to the provisions of NRS 678A.600, NRS 678D.450, NRS 453D.228, NAC 453A.348, NAC453A.350, NAC 453D.365, NAC 453D.900, and NAC 453D.905, the CCB has the discretion to impose the following disciplinary actions:
 - 1. Revoke the Prior Agent Cards and Current Agent Card;

- 2. Suspend the Current Agent Card;
- 3. Impose a civil penalty of not more than \$35,000 for each separate violation of Chapter 453D on the Prior Agent Cards and Current Agent Card; and
 - 4. Take such other disciplinary action as the CCB deems appropriate.

The CCB may order one or any combination of the discipline described above.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Based on the foregoing, counsel for the CCB respectfully requests the CCB impose civil penalties against Giron in the amount of \$1,250 for violating NAC 453D.348(2) and NAC 453D.905(3)(e)(1) on February 21, 2019. Pursuant to NAC 453D.940(8)(a) and NCCR 4.030(1)(b), counsel for the CCB respectfully requests a determination from CCB that Giron be barred from applying for any cannabis establishment agent registration cards for 9 years and 11 months following the imposition of revocation of his Prior Agent Cards. The CCB further reserves its rights to seek additional costs incurred as this matter proceeds through hearing and rehearing, if applicable.

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that Respondent has a right to request a hearing on the charges set forth herein, pursuant to NRS 678A.510 through 678A.590. Failure to demand a hearing constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing and to judicial review of any decision or order of the Board, but the Board may order a hearing even if the respondent so waives his or her right. NRS 678A.520(2)(e).

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that Respondent must answer this Complaint within 20 days after service of this Complaint, unless granted an extension. Pursuant to NRS 678A.520(2), in the answer Respondent:

- (a) Must state in short and plain terms the defenses to each claim asserted.
- (b) Must admit or deny the facts alleged in the complaint.
- (c) Must state which allegations the respondent is without knowledge or information form a belief as to their truth. Such allegations shall be deemed denied.

(d) Must affirmatively set forth any matter which constitutes an avoidance or affirmative defense.

(e) May demand a hearing. Failure to demand a hearing constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing and to judicial review of any decision or order of the Board, but the Board may order a hearing even if the respondent so waives his or her right.

Failure to answer or to appear at the hearing constitutes an admission by the respondent of all facts alleged in the Complaint. The Board may take action based on such an admission and on other evidence without further notice to the respondent. NRS 678A.520(3).

The Board shall determine the time and place of the hearing as soon as is reasonably practical after receiving the respondent's answer. The Board shall deliver or send by registered or certified mail a notice of hearing to all parties at least 10 days before the hearing. The hearing must be held within 45 days after receiving the respondent's answer unless an expedited hearing is determined to be appropriate by the Board, in which event the hearing must be held as soon as practicable. NRS 678A.520(4).

Respondent's Answer and Request for Hearing must be either: mailed via registered mail, return receipt; or delivered in person; or emailed to:

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director Cannabis Compliance Board 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 4100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 tklimas@ccb.nv.gov

If served by email, Respondent must ensure that it receives an acknowledgement of receipt email from CCB as proof of service.

As RESPONDENT, you are specifically informed that you have the right to appear and be heard in your defense, either personally or through your counsel of choice at your own expense. At the hearing, the CCB has the burden of proving the allegations in the Complaint, although any failure on your part to maintain any documents, records, surveillance video, and/or any other items required pursuant to the relevant statutes and

regulations shall create a rebuttal presumption that such items would be harmful to your case. The CCB will call witnesses and present evidence against you. You have the right to respond and to present relevant evidence and argument on all issues involved. You have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, and cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues involved.

You have the right to request that the CCB issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify and/or evidence to be offered on your behalf. In making this request, you may be required to demonstrate the relevance of the witness's testimony and/or evidence.

If Respondent does not wish to dispute the charges and allegations set forth herein, within 30 days of the service of this Complaint, Respondent may pay the civil penalties set forth above in the total amount of \$1,250 and surrender the Prior Agent Cards and Current Agent Card to:

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director Cannabis Compliance Board 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 4100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to immediately cease the activity described above which is a violation of Nevada law.

DATED: August 25, 2020.

STATE OF NEVAD

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 4100

Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

(702) 486-2300

AARON D. FORD Attorney General

Rv.

By:

L. Kristopher Rath (Bar No. 5749) Senior Deputy Attorney General

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Attorneys for the Department